

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release



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April Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 25,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of April 11-17, 2010, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Hired workers worked an average of 44.0 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$10.14 per hour.

There were 997,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 11-17, 2010, up 10 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 737,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 260,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.83 per hour during the April 2010 reference week, down 1 cent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.04 per hour, up 5 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$10.31 per hour compared with \$10.25 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.13 per hour, was up 6 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 39.8 for hired workers during the survey week, down 1 percent from a year ago.